



News Release

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360-236-4074
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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Chelan County

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Dulce Ibarra** (NC60014795) with unprofessional conduct. The charges allege that she falsely documented a patient's pulse and withheld a patient's medication as a result of the pulse number. She's also charged with providing a patient with the wrong medications, and failing to arm the alarm on the door of the adult family home where she worked, allowing a patient to leave the home.

Clark County

In January 2012 the Veterinary Board of Governors ended the probation order against veterinary technician **Michelle M. Lacey** (AT60014514).

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program placed the registration and certification of **Sasha Wisner** (NA60066200, NC60104904) on probation for two years. She failed to take vital sign readings but wrote down vital sign numbers in patient records. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration and certification.

Franklin County

In January 2012 the Health Care Assistant and X-Ray Technician Programs placed the

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credentials of **James R. H. Maxwell** (HC00150727, XT00004119) on probation for two years. He performed duties outside the scope of his health care assistant and X-ray technician credentials. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his credentials.

In January 2012 the Radiologic Technologist Program granted the application of **James R. H. Maxwell** (RT60243067) and placed his license on probation for two years. He entered into an agreed order against his credentials to practice as a health care assistant and an X-ray technician.

Island County

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program ended the probation order against registered nursing assistant **Lisa M. Bass** (NA00192850).

King County

In January 2012 the Medical Commission entered into an agreed order with physician **John H. Addison** (MD00018359) and placed conditions against his license. He employed a physician to see patients in his office who wasn't licensed to practice in Washington.

In January 2012 the Dental Commission charged dentist with a conscious sedation permit **Thoa V. Nguyen** (DE00008172, CS10000405) with unprofessional conduct. The care he provided allegedly fell below the standard when sedating patients, failing to monitor patients under sedation, failing to keep adequate records, failing to supply adequate records when requested, keeping sedation drugs in an unlocked refrigerator, and violating Drug Enforcement Agency regulations.

In January 2012 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program ended the probation order against emergency medical technician **Thomas J. Osterdahl** (ES60094598).

In January 2012 the Chiropractic Commission released chiropractor **Greg Pfiffner** (CH00002939) from terms and conditions set against his license.

In January 2012 the Denturist Program charged **Victor R. Plavsky** (DN00000296) with unprofessional conduct. He's allegedly out of compliance with billing standards, made unlawful claims for compensation, and unlawfully provided and billed for services while his license was expired.

In January 2012 the Board of Pharmacy charged pharmacy assistant **Austa Smith** (VB00069600), also known as Austa Bienville, with unprofessional conduct. She was convicted of murder in the second degree — domestic violence.

Kitsap County

In January 2012 the Chiropractic Commission amended the statement of charges against chiropractor **Marc A. Ferrin** (CH00033961). He was convicted of theft and attempted criminal liability of person making false statement for falsely billing the Department of Labor and Industries for treatment he hadn't provided to nine different patients.

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of registered nursing assistant **Sandra Lynne Ingram** (NA60251526) and placed conditions against her registration. She was convicted of unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of stolen property, possession of another's identification, and driving while license suspended.

Pierce County

In January 2012 the Counselor Program granted the application of agency affiliated counselor **Tiffany Nicole Smorch** (CG60231263) and placed her registration on probation for two years. She was convicted of retail fraud.

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of registered nursing assistant applicant **Katie Lee Tatum** (NA60237071). She was convicted of bank fraud.

In January 2012 the Counselor Program charged agency affiliated counselor **Lisa L. Waugh** (CG60153669) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly entered into personal relationships with patients and disclosed personal information about a patient to another patient without a disclosure release.

Skagit County

In January 2012 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Andrew T. Lai** (DE00009768) with unprofessional conduct. The care he provided allegedly fell below the standard when treating a patient. He also allegedly failed to pay registration fees for his X-ray machines to the department.

In January 2012 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems and Health Care Assistant Programs released emergency medical technician and health care assistant **Joseph T. Pollino** (ES60171377, HC60229558) from terms and conditions set against his credentials.

Snohomish County

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Josephine Karangan** (NC10056110) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations include pushing a patient's legs back into bed, shoving a patient into her wheelchair, making degrading comments to a patient, and pinching a patient's nose to force liquid medication into the patient's mouth.

In January 2012 the Chiropractic Commission released chiropractor **Matthew D'Alton Nash** (CH00003646) from terms and conditions set against his license.

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Danielle Thomas** (NC10086847) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly stole jewelry from a patient's mother and sold it for about \$3,000. She was convicted of attempted theft.

Spokane County

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program ended the probation order against certified nursing assistant **Clare L. Marshall** (NC10077571).

Thurston County

In January 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program ended the probation order against certified nursing assistant **Marsha V. Edwards** (NC10043137).

In January 2012 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Jeffry A. Finnigan** (CH00001437) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to provide adequate patient exams prior to treatment, failed to keep adequate records, and failed to keep sufficient patient documentation to justify the billing records.

Walla Walla County

In January 2012 the Respiratory Care Practitioner Program charged **Stephen D. Miller** (LR60076415) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of assault.

Yakima County

In January 2012 the Chiropractic Commission ended the probation order against chiropractor **William Duane Harrington** (CH00003133).

In January 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended the probation order against chemical dependency professional trainee **Russell Gene Taylor** (CO60116194).

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).